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Crane dangle 'just plain dumb'

VIDEO

Man could face charges if a complaint is launched

A man dangles from a crane above Winnipeg. YOUTUBE.COM

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

The Winnipeg Construction Association (WAC) has weighed in on an online video that shows a man dangle from one arm off a sky-high crane at a downtown construction site.

"We shouldn't have to say it, but this activity is just plain dumb," said the association in a statement Thursday.

The 3-1/2-minute long video, titled 5:30 AM Winnipeg, shows a man walk across the crane's arm, above what appears to be the Glasshouse Skyloft construction site on Hargrave Street. He then lowers himself down and hangs over the street below, for a time, with one hand.

It was posted on YouTube in August by a user named Sam Armstrong. By Thursday afternoon the video had more than 20,500 views.

Winnipeg police have taken an equally dim view of the activity, and while they are not currently investigating, spokesman Const. Jason Michalyshen said that could change if they receive a complaint.

"When you're merely dangling from a crane numerous stories up, you don't know what could potentially happen," he said. "Obviously our message is that no one engage in this type of incredibly hazardous activity."

The WAC said it supports criminal charges against "anyone taking part in this activity."

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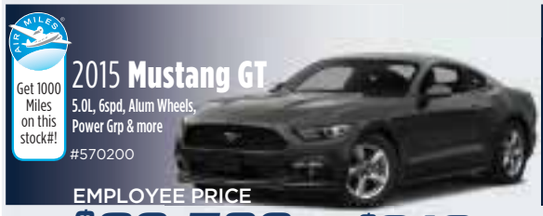

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metro NEWS

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Celebrating sweet potatoes

HARVEST

A surplus of the root vegetable leads to new festival

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

The Burger Place employees Bobbi Yuzark, left, and Alexa Zastre show off some of the restaurant's dishes. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

The St. James Village BIZ is getting back to its roots with a unique street festival.

Root vegetables, that is.

The BIZ will hold its first ever Yam Fest along Portage Avenue in St. James Saturday afternoon to celebrate all things sweet, about sweet potatoes.

The idea for what some might think of as an odd festival sprouted from a very odd problem the BIZ found themselves facing — what to do with more than 100 pounds of surprise sweet potatoes they didn't know they were growing in the first place.

"The whole city is secretly full of sweet potatoes," laughed St. James BIZ executive director Jennifer Mathieson when called by a confused Metro reporter Thursday.

And she's not joking.

Mathieson says the city uses sweet potato vines in most of the planters that line major routes in Winnipeg, because "they're beautiful, they're hardy, and they grow huge."

The difference in St. James is that the planters along Portage Avenue are much deeper than the ones used in other areas, and that allows the vines to quietly grow some very large sweet potatoes under the soil over the summer.

"We realized it a couple years ago… and so starting last year we stopped using herbicides and we donated them to Siloam Mission," said Mathieson. "Then this year we decided, we do this harvest anyway, why don't we run a community event to end off the season?"

The harvest is so plentiful Mathieson said Siloam Mission couldn't use them all up last year, so this year the BIZ is selling the sweet potatoes during the festival with proceeds going to Winnipeg Harvest.

They've also given sweet potatoes to restaurants along the strip who'll have their unique creations — like The Burger Place's dessert poutine (sweet potatoes topped with ice cream and drizzled with chocolate and butterscotch sauce) — available for sale during the festival, which runs from noon to 6 p.m.

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW

Yams and sweet potatoes are actually two separate root vegetables, according to the St. James Village BIZ, but they decided to call the event Yam Fest because it's a common misconception and there wasn't room on the poster to properly explain it.

IN BRIEF

CMHR brings children's exhibit to Winnipeg

The Canadian Museum for Human Rights will welcome a new hands-on exhibit for children next month.

XOXO: An Exhibit About Love and Forgiveness will open inside the museum's new Level 1 Gallery on Oct. 4 and run until Jan. 3.

Through play-based learning, the exhibit will help kids explore notions of human dignity, respect and equality, said the CMHR in a statement. CMHR said the exhibit will see kids enter a lively and colourful exhibit about feelings.

METRO

Bridge closures coming to Winnipeg this weekend

A number of Winnipeg bridges will be closed to vehicles this weekend for maintenance and inspection work.

The Louise Bridge will be closed to vehicle traffic from Saturday at 6 a.m. until Sunday at 6 a.m. for routine structural steel inspection. One sidewalk will remain open during the inspection.

The Redwood Bridge will be closed to vehicle traffic from Sunday at 6 a.m. until Monday at 6 a.m. for routine inspection, and one sidewalk will remain open during the work.

The Arlington Bridge will be closed to vehicle traffic on Sunday between 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. for routine maintenance, but pedestrian access will be maintained.

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MANITOBA HYDRO

Worker's widow still after answers

The wife of a Manitoba Hydro worker who died on the job wants the province to hold a public inquiry.

Valerie Head says she still has questions about the medical care her 65-year-old husband Joseph received after he had a heart attack and stroke while working on the Keeyask Dam a year ago.

She says the ambulance took too long to get to the site and transport her husband to hospital in Gillam, where he died last October.

Head says staff at the Crown corporation haven't been giving any answers.

Hydro officials keep telling her that Workplace Health and Safety is investigating, she says, but she's been told the investigation finished last November.

Manitoba Hydro has said the man's death is unfortunate but provincial medical-care standards were met.

"What frustrates me the most is for how many months I've been talking and asking questions, and they keep saying, 'I'm sorry, we cannot comment,'" Head said.

Head says several workers on the Keeyask site have concerns about safety, adding the union supports an inquiry.

The province has not commented on whether it will consider calling the inquiry.

CJOB/THE CANADIAN PRESS

POLICING LEARNING TO PUT BIAS ASIDE Retired Palo Alto, Calif., police lieutenant Sandra Brown leads a workshop on fair and impartial policing and the science of human bias for members of the Winnipeg Police Service's top brass and other senior officers Thursday. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Spokesman Luc Lewandowski said Thursday the group set up by Duffy's Taxi and Unicity Taxi is launching a campaign to point out the advantages of traditional transportation services. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

Cab companies join up in self-defence

UBER

Winnipeg Taxi Alliance talks trust in face of ride-sharing

Shane Gibson
Metro | Winnipeg

Two Winnipeg taxicab companies have joined forces to defend their services as ride-share options like Uber start muscling in across Canada.

Uber, which uses an app to connect riders with Uber drivers who typically charge a lower fare, now operates in more than 200 cities around the world. Last October, Metro reported Uber was looking for drivers in Winnipeg.

On Thursday, Duffy's Taxi and Unicity Taxi announced they've formed the Winnipeg Taxi Alliance and launched a campaign called "Trusted Transit."

Group spokesman Luc Lewandowski said they are not trying to start a war with Uber.

"This isn't meant to be taxis versus Uber," he said, pointing to a 2009 study on Winnipeg's taxi system as the reason for their formation. "Their conclusion was that Winnipeg has good to great service, but they acknowledged… the perception isn't that way in Winnipeg.

"Ride-sharing technology is what they call a disruptive force in the marketplace, and the feeling right now is that (taxicab companies) have to be a little more public in what they're doing to generally improve the service."

The group isn't planning an ad campaign but instead will focus on holding news events and lobbying the government, according to Lewandowski.

A release from the group defended traditional taxis, saying the higher fares pay for insurance for passengers as well as safety features. Regulations also stop drivers from raising prices during peak times, said Lewandowski.

WITH FILES FROM COLIN FAST

WELCOMING

A Probe Research poll released in August showed 60 per cent of Winnipeggers — including 76 per cent of 18- to 34-year-olds — are in favour of allowing a ride-sharing service to set up shop in the city.

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Firefighters combat a blaze inside a townhouse on Apple Lane in Crestview in September 2014. ELISHA DACEY/METRO FILE

Burned man grateful to Manitobans

FIRE

Medic suffered second, third degree wounds on his body

One year after being badly burned in an explosion that levelled a townhome, a Winnipeg man and his family are thanking Manitobans for their support and generosity.

Corey Schroeder was doing renovations in his basement using a chemical solvent when the fumes ignited and exploded.

Schroeder says the entire house became an inferno, and he sustained second and third-degree burns on much of his body and his face.

One thing that worked in his favour is that he's a paramedic, and he was able to give instructions to neighbours who ran to help him.

He would spend the next six weeks in the burn unit at Health Sciences Centre.

He says various fundraisers brought in about $30,000 to help his family — including his partner Dana Johnson, their young daughter and newborn son — through the last year.

"The words thank you … it doesn't seem like enough to me," says Johnson. "Thank you to everybody, and everything you did, and the support and generosity."

Johnson's colleagues at a hair salon raised money, and firefighters and police donated proceeds from their annual Guns versus Hoses hockey game.

Schroeder returned to work in July and the family has moved back into their rebuilt home.

"The healing process and my recovery, and the rest of the family, it's unbelievable," says Schroeder. "Nobody can believe how well it's come out for us."

Now that he's returned to work, he says the traumatic experience he survived allows him to have even greater empathy for the people he works with as a paramedic.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/CTV WINNIPEG

TRAFFIC HEAD-ON COLLISION BETWEEN CAR, TRUCK LEAVES TWO DEAD

Two people are dead after a head-on collision in Portage La Prairie on Wednesday.

On Wednesday around 1:45 p.m., RCMP were called to a collision between a southbound car and a northbound pickup truck near the intersection of 68 Road North and Road 39 West in Portage la Prairie.

The driver of the car, 50, and his 40-year-old female passenger, both from Sandy Bay First Nation, were pronounced dead at the scene.

The 17-year-old male driver of the truck was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, and his 17-year-old female passenger was not injured.

Alcohol is not believed to be a factor, and the investigation continues.

DAVE BAXTER/METRO

Girl, 10, hit by van while riding bike in critical condition

A 10-year-old girl from Grunthal is in critical condition after being hit by a van while riding her bike.

On Wednesday around 8:45 p.m. RCMP got a report of a cyclist struck by a vehicle travelling south on Highway 216 outside of Grunthal.

STARS air ambulance transported the 10-year-old cyclist who had serious injuries, and on Thursday she remained in hospital in critical condition.

The girl was wearing a helmet.

The 44-year-old driver of the van remained on the scene and is cooperating with police.

The investigation continues, and RCMP said alcohol does not appear to be a factor.

METRO

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1. My first week I lost 6.25 pounds and 15 inches. To date I have lost 47 pounds and 55 inches of fat.

Q: How did you gain your weight?

2. In the early 1990's I quit smoking. I didn't gain a lot right away because I was active but then winter came and that's when I gained the weight. Whenever I got stressed I ate instead of smoked. Then in 1998 I was in a terrible car accident and couldn't do much except sit in a chair. Thats when I gained even more weight.

Q: What was the final straw that made you decide to start your weight loss journey?

3. I have tried other sources but they just didn't work for me. I had even gone as far as wanting gastric bypass surgery. I thought that would be the only way left for me to go. I was worried because I developed type 2 diabetes. My last straw was watching my sugar levels continue to climb and same with my insulin dose. I have 4 small children at home and knew I needed to be there for them but the way I was going I knew I wouldn't be.

Q: How did you feel about seeking help with your weight loss?

4. I knew I couldn't do this alone anymore. I knew I needed help and support was the biggest thing for me.

Q: What happened initially when you started with U Weight Loss Clinic?

5. I walked in to UWL here in Winnipeg and was greeted by everyone. It felt good that I had made the right decision to book an appointment for my healthy weight analysis.

Q: So what did you like most about the program?

6. I like that I can plan my own meals with U Weight Loss meal plans and that if I have any difficulties I can call anytime for some support.

Q: What made this program different than other diets you tried?

7. They have meal plans that I can prepare easily on my own and that it fulfills what my body requires.

Q: What were some of your favorite recipes

8. There are so many recipes to choose from. I have many favorites such as the chicken and sweet potato and the cheeseburger wrap.

Q: How do you feel now?

9. I feel great with my weight loss progress to date. My ACI (a test that tells you blood sugar levels) is 6.8. This is the lowest they have been sine 2000! I am now off all of my diabetic medications. Prior to program,my insulin intake was up to 70 units a day (65 in the morning and 5 before bed) plus a fast release insulin (46 units in the morning)

Q: Any advice for anyone struggling with weight loss and health related challenges?

10. I would encourage those who are struggling with their weight loss to at least try U Weight Loss. This is not a diet but an education on how to change bad eating habits. It's very hard to lose weight on your own. I know this personally since I've been there. I needed to join a place that would be there for me if things got rough and the staff at U weight Loss here in town are there to help you when you are struggling. I wish I had joined earlier but I can't change the past. I need to go forward one day at a time. Most importantly, I am off ALL DIABETIC MEDICATIONS(Insulin and Metaformin) and have only 8 pounds to go to reach my personal goal! I feel amazing and hope my story helps someone else here in Winnipeg to lose weight and enjoy a healthy life!!

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New kids thrive through cricket

STUDENTS

Popularity grows as new Canadians enrol at school

Dave Baxter
Metro | Winnipeg

For many kids at Dakota Collegiate, the chance to play cricket is about so much more than just playing a game.

The St. Vital high school has a high number of immigrant kids among their student population, and vice principal Robbie Mager said when new Canadians come to a new school in a new country they often feel lost, and unsure where they will fit in.

A few years ago the school set up a cricket team because kids who came from countries where cricket is huge were asking for it.

"They arrive here looking for a sport or activity, but maybe things like hockey or basketball are just not their thing," said Mager.

Amitesh Galhotra, (left) and Ricky Persaud (right) practise some cricket outside at Dakota Collegiate. DAVE BAXTER/METRO

The cricket team has become such a success the school is now getting set to construct a cricket cage on the school grounds, which would function in a similar way to a baseball batting cage.

Cricket at the school has done wonders for new Canadian kids looking to fit in here, while searching for memories of home, said Mager.

"You're taking something they have thrived in, and now you put them in an unfamiliar place, but you give them something that is familiar," said Mager.

"So now they automatically meet 15 other kids at the school and they build a community around it."

Grade 12 student Amitesh Galhotra was passionate about cricket before coming to Canada from India five years ago, and when he got to Dakota Collegiate he pushed for a cricket team, which soon became a reality.

> **"It just makes me feel like I'm back in India for that moment when I'm playing.**
> Amitesh Galhotra

"It helped me make new friends," said Galhotra. "And it just makes me feel like I'm back in India for that moment when I'm playing.

"It helped me adjust."

The new cricket cage will make it easier for the team to practise, and help get more kids involved in the sport, said Galhotra.

Construction of the cage will start this fall as part of the school's long-term Alumni Field project, which looks to dramatically improve the school's athletic facilities over the next few years.

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READY TO ENGAGE

Metro's coast-to-coast daily election series connects young, urban Canadians to the issues they care about

VOTER PROFILE

Name: Cory Nicotine **Age:** 26 **Riding:** Edmonton Manning
His issues: Energy, environment, First Nations rights, arts

A vote for the future of First Nations Canadians

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
in Edmonton

"This is where everything changed for me."

Cory Nicotine sits in a hallway at iHuman Youth Society in Edmonton, in the downtown neighbourhood known as the Quarters — home to parking lots and social-outreach groups, crime and Chinese restaurants — not far from scenic parks of the river valley.

This is the organization where he came for help when he got into petty trouble with the law, and was recruited for a theatre project that "gave me a voice that I never thought I had." iHuman made him a youth mentor, a community organizer, and led his political awakening.

"If there's one question I got, if I see any of the potential prime ministers," he says, "it would be: What would Canada look like for a young person like me, First Nations person, living on or underneath the minimum wage? What would it look like under their power or control?"

At 26, and though two federal elections have passed since he turned 18, this will be Nicotine's first time voting for Canada's next leader.

"I want to exercise my right. It's something indigenous people never got to do before. It's one way we could voice our opinions."

Nicotine has worries, and he's hoping the election can bring solutions and answers. Are major oil pipelines safe? Who will get the royalties? And what does it mean for First Nations near the oilsands?

Nicotine wants to see an inquiry into missing-and-murdered indigenous women ("like everybody"), but where will the money come from? And will it be taken from funds that currently help First Nations? How can we help young people without jobs? What about affordable education?

He sees the big three political parties in broad strokes: Conservatives represent "high class, billionaire, millionaire people. Liberals: middle-class, family people. NDP is looking for people trying to come up and make it."

That's Nicotine, who grew up "with nothing, wearing the same shoes and same clothes for about a year." But he hasn't decided who to vote for, yet.

Nicotine has worked on an art project with the NDP candidate in his riding, Aaron Paquette, who he calls a good guy with a good heart. He'd been thinking NDP, "because Jack Layton was a cool dude." But now, the party "is different from when Jack Layton ran it." He's not so sure about Tom Mulcair. He thinks Justin Trudeau also seems like a "good guy," and he likes the Liberals' plan to decriminalize marijuana, even though he doesn't smoke it.

He wants a Canada that stands for multiculturalism and welcomes refugees, that listens to the will of its indigenous peoples, that is a world leader in environmental protection.

As for federal politics impact on his own life, "I haven't seen much help from the government," he says. "I've lived on a reserve and I've lived in the city, and nothing, I feel, has gotten better."

But Nicotine, who is also a filmmaker, has had the opposite: what a government can take away. A few years ago, he was set to go to Africa, where he'd already been as a Canada World Youth leader, and make a documentary. Then the Conservatives cut arts funding. "It could have been a life-changing experience for me. There was so much I was hoping for in that."

Rosemary Westwood is travelling across the country talking to young voters. On Monday she'll be in Calgary.

Playing the vote-swapping market

Tight ridings have plenty to offer with the right strategy

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Claire Nielsen is offering a trade: She'll (*gasp*) vote Liberal for you, if you'll vote Green or NDP for her.

Nielsen, a 21-year-old graphic- design student from the British Columbia riding of South Surrey–White Rock is looking for someone to vote-swap with.

"If you live in a riding that could go NDP or Green and you want to #voteswap hmu. Willing to vote NDP, Green, or (shudder) Liberal. #cdnpoli," she recently tweeted.

Nielsen would like to vote Green, or if not Green, then NDP, but she doesn't think either of those options are likely to count for much in South Surrey–White Rock.

"We've typically gone Conservative before, and that's what I'm trying to avoid," she said. So in comes the political calculus.

A recent vote projection for her riding by threehundredeight.com, suggests the Liberals are most likely to unseat the incumbent Tories. So, if Nielsen can find a suitable swapping partner — that is, a Liberal supporter in a riding where the NDP or Greens are in a close race with the Conservatives — she would pledge to vote Liberal in her riding on her behalf of her swapping partner, in exchange for her partner's promise to vote NDP.

But Nielsen hasn't yet found a match. She's worried her riding isn't close enough.

In the vote-swapping marketplace, where a voter's value is measured by their ability to affect outcomes, those in safe ridings have little to offer. And given that this is largely an anti-Harper movement, voters in safe Conservative ridings are the least valuable of all.

Those who find themselves in Nielsen's shoes might have better luck checking out some of the vote-swapping websites that have cropped up during this campaign.

Jim Harris, a former leader of the Green Party, runs one of them: voteswapping.ca. The site, which is expressly devoted to defeating the Conservatives, shows users who enter their postal code a rundown of some recent polling and predictions for their riding. NDP supporters living in swing ridings where the Conservatives are in a tight race with the Liberals, and Liberals supporters living in swing ridings where the Conservatives are in a tight race with the NDP are invited to swap.

Green supporters are invited to swap votes with NDP and Liberal supporters in the one riding where the Greens might win: Elizabeth May's riding of Saanich-Gulf Islands. (Some have credited vote-swapping for May's victory in 2011.)

Harris thinks it won't take too many vote-swappers to make a big difference.

"In 2011, Harper won his majority with 14 seats," he said, "and when you look at the difference between the Conservative winner and the second place in the 14 closest ridings, it's 6,201 votes.

"So about 6,000 votes out of about 11.8 million gave Harper his majority."

VISUALIZATION

Sample swapping scenarios

SCENARIO 1:

A Liberal supporter in Kootenay-Columbia
NDP: 37%
Conservatives: 37%
Liberals: 15%

swaps with

An NDP supporter in Eglinton-Lawrence
Liberals: 37%
Conservatives: 35%
NDP: 24%

51
Ridings were decided by 5% or less in the 2011 election.

SCENARIO 2:

A Liberal supporter in Saskatoon-University
NDP: 37%
Conservatives: 37%
Liberals: 22%

swaps with

An NDP supporter in Fredericton
Liberals: 37%
Conservatives: 32%
NDP: 20%

Mohamed Fahmy with his wife Marwa Omara in Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday. AMR NABIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fighting for a free future

JAILED JOURNALIST

For Fahmy, battle for open press in Egypt continues

Mohamed Fahmy is filled with ideas for his future as a free man.

Mere hours after being released from a Cairo prison, the Canadian journalist who spent nearly two years fighting widely decried terror charges is eager to discuss the next stage of his fight for freedom of the press in Egypt.

"It's a whole new chapter, it's like being born again," he said as the reality of his liberty began to sink in. "I just have so much inside me that I want to let out."

When he was sent to prison for the second time in the same case last month, Fahmy began working on what he called a charter of rights for journalists in Egypt. Before he leaves Cairo for Canada in a few days he wants to present his document to Egypt's President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi who pardoned him.

"I want to build on what happened with this case and explain to him some of the issues that journalists face here on the ground," he said. "I will continue fighting to get at least little victories to a real true free press."

Fahmy's long-running legal saga has drawn attention from around the world ever since he and two colleagues were arrested in December 2013 while working for satellite news broadcaster Al Jazeera English.

The trio — who maintained their innocence throughout — were charged with offences that included supporting a banned organization and fabricating footage to undermine the country's national security. They were convicted in a trial that observers called a sham and sentenced to years in prison.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Groups surprised NDP-er not aware of Auschwitz

Jewish groups say they were astonished that an educated school trustee running for the New Democrats in the federal election had no awareness of one of the Nazis' most notorious deaths camps. Jewish leaders were reacting to comments by Alex Johnstone, the NDP candidate in Hamilton, Ont., who was forced to apologize for referring to fence posts at Auschwitz as being phallic on a Facebook page in 2008.

Explaining her comments to a local newspaper Tuesday, Johnstone reportedly claimed that she didn't know what Auschwitz was.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

Prof says disabled student's view unfair

The professor involved in a controversy at Memorial University of Newfoundland says a hearing-impaired student who claims she failed to accommodate him has "selective amnesia."

In a statement released to local radio station VOCM, history professor Ranee Panjabi says William Sears rejected her offer to discuss alternatives to the FM transmitter, which he said he needed to hear lectures.

"I was completely taken aback as I am used to students being courteous enough to listen, not rebuff a discussion in that regrettable manner," Panjabi wrote in the signed letter dated Sept. 24.

Panjabi says the third-year student abruptly walked out of class instead of letting her explain that the hearing device would not allow him to hear discussions involving classmates or videos shown as part of her instruction, leaving him at a disadvantage.

"While Mr. Sears rebuffed any discussion with me — discussion that would have resolved this matter satisfactorily — he proceeded to provide his version — which regretfully displayed flashes of selective amnesia — to every media source he could garner."

Panjabi notes she holds a law degree and says a 1996 agreement with the school allowing her to refuse to wear the device on religious grounds is binding.

In her letter, Panjabi says she was "somewhat surprised" by Sears's request to wear the FM transmitter because they had previously conversed "quite normally" while he sat in the front row of the class and she sat in a chair behind a table.

She also says the school's Blundon Centre for Students with Disabilities didn't properly inform her of the need for accommodation before Sears arrived at her class Sept. 10. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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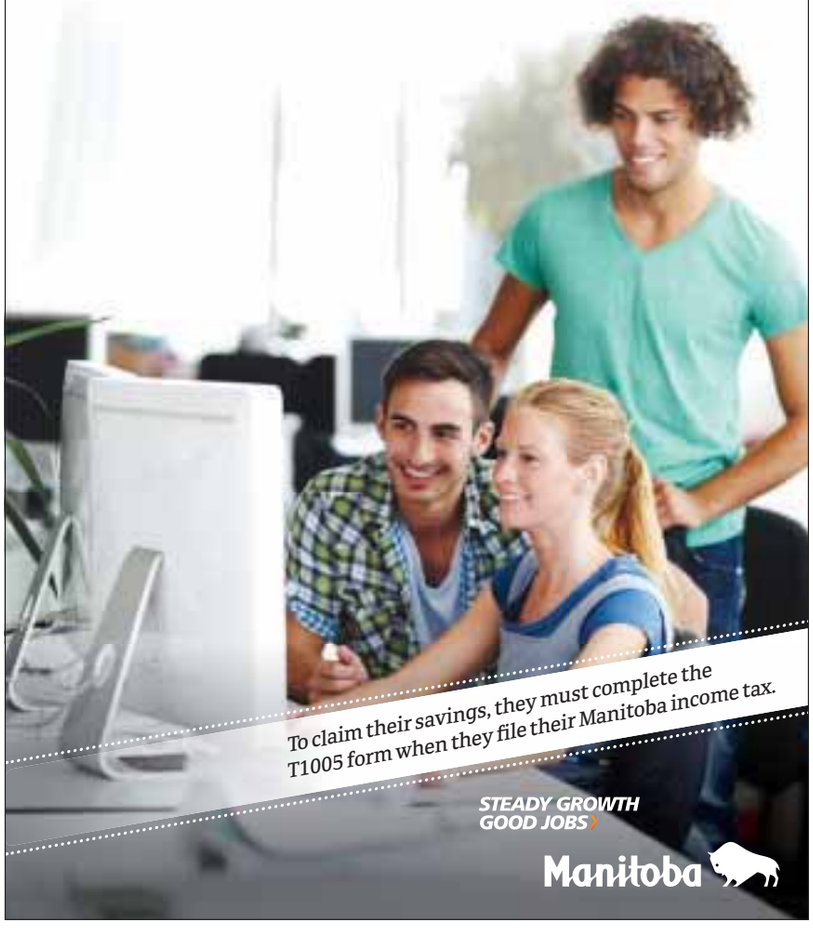
To claim their savings, they must complete the T1005 form when they file their Manitoba income tax.
STEADY GROWTH
GOOD JOBS
Manitoba

Thursday night's debate in French offered a rare opportunity to hear from all the leaders.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leaders face off over the niqab

ELECTION 2015

Controversial face covering leads to heated exchanges

The politically charged subject of minority and women's rights created unusual on-stage alliances — and one of the most heated exchanges of the campaign — during the first French-language debate of the federal election.

Health care, the right to die with dignity, the Senate and the economy also came up Thursday during the first half of the debate, hosted by Radio-Canada in Montreal.

But the question of whether Muslim women who wear the face-covering niqab should be required to show their face while taking the citizenship oath was one of the most widely anticipated discussion points.

Conservative Leader Stephen Harper and the Bloc Quebecois' Gilles Duceppe had both run pointed television ads expressing the controversial position that women who wear the veil should be made to remove it during the ceremony.

"We're talking about a fundamental question; it's the question of equality between men and women in our society," said Duceppe, who promised the Bloc's first bill in the Commons would be extend a ban on the veil to other areas, such as public servants.

Although NDP Leader Tom Mulcair and Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau are going head to head for seats in Quebec, they wound up on the same page on the issue — they didn't think a woman should be told how to dress.

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE FRIDAY

- **Stephen Harper** will be in Riviere-du-Loup, Que.
- **Justin Trudeau** will be in Ottawa.
- **Tom Mulcair** will be in Quebec City.
- **Elizabeth May** will be in Montreal.

> **Where is the inquiry on missing and murdered aboriginal women?**
> Elizabeth May, Green Party Leader

"I understand it's a question that makes many people uneasy, but for me, the state is there to defend minority rights, and to defend the rights of women," Trudeau said.

That led to a tense moment during the debate that featured Harper and Mulcair facing each other directly, talking loudly over each other.

"Mr. Mulcair, I will never tell my young daughter that a woman should cover her face because she is woman. That's not our Canada, that's not acceptable for me," Harper said.

"Attack the oppressor, don't attack the woman, Mr. Harper ... have the courage to do that," Mulcair said. "But it's not by depriving these women of their citizenship and their rights that you're going to succeed in helping them."

Green party Leader Elizabeth May called the issue a "fake debate" that has nothing to do with important questions on climate change, unemployment and the economy.

"For women's rights, where is the inquiry on missing and murdered aboriginal women?" she asked.

Other lively moments came during a discussion on constitutional issues, where Trudeau challenged Mulcair's position that a simple majority in a referendum would be enough for Quebec to separate from Canada.

"Mr. Trudeau says it will take much more than simple majority, but he refuses to say how much," Mulcair said.

"A prime minister should fight for the unity of the country, and it won't surprise anyone that's what I intend to do," said Trudeau.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PHONE FANS RAIN CAN'T DAMPEN THEIR FERVOUR More than 50 people camp on the wet sidewalk outside the Apple Store in Sydney, Australia, on Friday to be among the first to purchase the new iPhone 6s. GLENN NICHOLLS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bones may be from Mona Lisa model

ART

But tests fail to link fragments to portrait's alleged subject

Scientific testing of bone fragments from a Florence church grave could not determine whether they are from the body of a Renaissance-era woman some believe was the model for Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa, researchers said Thursday.

Perhaps as enigmatic as that Mona Lisa smile, the question of who might have been the model has intrigued art lovers for centuries.

Art historians differ on the model's identity.

Even if bone testing had determined that the remains were that of Lisa Gherardini, the wife of rich silk merchant Francesco del Giocondo, it wouldn't have answered the intriguing question of who posed for Leonardo.

Some say he used a male model; still others theorize the artist did a kind of self-portrait in disguise or used several models.

Researchers told reporters in Florence that carbon-14 testing of one of the fragments indicated the remains were compatible with the period. Gherardini died at age 63 in 1542, and the researchers said historical documents indicate she was buried in a Florence convent.

Head researcher Silvano Vinceti said unfortunately there are few remains, and no skull, which might have helped determine if the woman could have been Leonardo's model for the portrait, which is in the Louvre in Paris.

"Our biggest problem has been the fact that the fragments were very fragmented, very deteriorated," said Giorgio Gruppioni. head of the forensic anthropology laboratory at Bologna University.

> **"The odds that the bones belong to her are very high.**
> Silvano Vinceti, researcher

That complicated the task of determining the sex and age at death as well as DNA analysis, he said.

Because no remains have been found of Gherardini's relatives, any DNA comparison testing was impossible, the researchers said.

Still, Vinceti insisted that "the odds that the bones belong to her are very high."

A 16th-century artist and biographer of artists, Giorgio Vassari, wrote that Leonardo painted a portrait of del Giocondo's wife.

Tradition has long linked the woman to the Mona Lisa painting, which is known in Italian as La Gioconda.

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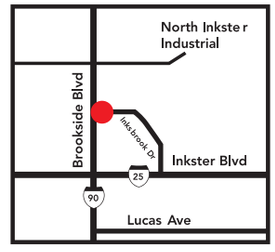

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EU leaders unified again

metro The Syrian Crisis
The response

Summit OKs plan to deal with migrants

After months of delay and debate, European Union leaders agreed early Thursday to mount a broader, more comprehensive response to Europe's migration crisis, including ponying up more money to aid refugees in the Middle East, both to feed them and to reduce the chance they will come to Europe, and to toughen EU border controls.

"In the face of a major challenge, Europe can't just say: We will not deal with this. That would be completely wrong," said German Chancellor Angela Merkel. "We have to find answers together."

"Urgent needs" of refugees currently in the Middle East will be met with at least 1 billion euros ($1.1 billion US) in fresh EU funding to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, World Food Program and other agencies, the leaders decided. Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and other countries dealing with refugees fleeing the Syrian civil war should also receive greater injections of EU assistance, including through a "substantial increase" in the EU's Regional Trust Fund.

Afghan refugees reach the Greek island of Lesbos, Thursday, joining the nearly half-million asylum-seekers already in Europe. PETROS GIANNAKOURIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **Europe can't just say: We will not deal with this.**
> Angela Merkel

The leaders agreed to beef up border controls by providing more resources, including personnel and equipment from their countries, to help Frontex, the EU's border agency, Europol and other EU organizations. By November, new EU dedicated teams will be fully deployed to assist local authorities in Greece and Italy — where most people have been arriving — with identification, fingerprinting and registration to see whether they qualify for asylum.

The leaders called for stepped-up dialogue with Turkey, home to nearly two million refugees, as well as assistance to non EU-member countries in the Balkans through which large numbers of refugees now transit. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is expected to visit Brussels Oct. 5. Member states should also contribute more to stabilize African countries that have become a source of displaced persons, the leaders said.

The EU summit called for a "renewed UN-led international effort" to end the war in Syria, which it said has driven an estimated 12 million people from their homes. To broker peace in Syria, Merkel said, "you have to talk to a lot of actors, and that includes (President Bashar) Assad."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUCTION

Diamond could net $28M

A pink diamond the size of a postage stamp is going on the auction block and it's estimated to bring as much as $28 million US.

The 16.08-carat gem could set a record for a cushion-shaped fancy vivid pink diamond when it's offered at Christie's in Geneva on Nov. 10.

The auction house says it's the largest diamond of its kind to come to auction.

A smaller, 8.72-carat pink diamond of the same shape and fancy vivid pink grade sold for $15.9 million US at auction in May.

Fancy vivid pink means the hue is of the purest and strongest saturation.

Christie's says the seller purchased it 10 years ago as an investment.

A 25-carat emerald-cut pink diamond holds the auction record for any diamond. It sold for $46 million US in 2010.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAUDI ARABIA

Over 700 hajj pilgrims killed in crush near holy site

Two giant waves of Muslim pilgrims collided at an intersection Thursday near a holy site in Saudi Arabia, and more than 700 people were crushed and trampled to death in the worst disaster at the hajj in a quarter-century.

"People were climbing over one another just to breathe," said Abdullah Lotfy of Egypt. "It was like a wave. You go forward and suddenly you go back."

The hajj, which drew two million people from over 180 countries this year, is a huge logistical challenge for Saudi Arabia. The kingdom has spent billions of dollars to accommodate the growing number of pilgrims and maintain safety and security at Islam's holy cities of Mecca and Medina for the annual event.

Saudi Interior Ministry spokesman Maj. Gen. Mansour al-Turki said that initial reports showed two crowds coming from opposing directions converged at an intersection in Mina, on the outskirts of Mecca, when the pushing and shoving started. "Unfortunately, these incidents happen in a moment," al-Turki said at a news conference.

> **100,000**
> **About 100,000 security forces were deployed to manage the crowds and provide security for this year's hajj, with 5,000 CCTV cameras in Mecca and Medina.**

But four survivors questioned how officials managing the flow of people could allow two big crowds going in different directions to intersect on streets packed with pilgrims.

As of late Thursday, the death toll was 719, but that probably would rise as bodies continued to be counted. At least 863 people were injured.

Over the years, the Saudi government has expanded Mecca's Grand Mosque that houses Islam's most sacred site, the cube-shaped Kaaba. The government also uses sophisticated face-counting technology installed at a multistory structure in Mina known as the Jamarat Bridge, near where the tragedy occurred. The wide ramps and technology are designed to ease the pressure of the crowds and prevent pilgrims from being trampled.

Unlike the wide ramps leading to Jamarat, the streets amid the tents in Mina are narrow. The street where the accident took place is about 12 metres (36 feet) wide, with tall gates to the left and right. Behind the gates are the tents of hajj tour groups, organized by nationality.

It was the second major accident during this year's hajj season. On Sept. 11, a construction crane crashed down onto the Grand Mosque, killing 111 people and injuring more than 390.

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Woman to face trial in Puerto Rico

EXTRADITION

Accused of hiring man to kill Canadian husband

A Puerto Rican woman accused of hiring a hit man to kill her wealthy Canadian husband was extradited to the U.S. territory Thursday after a lengthy international manhunt.

Aurea Vazquez Rijos arrived with her month-old baby and was escorted by FBI agents just hours before she appeared in court. She flew in from Spain, where a court ordered her extradition nearly two years ago on the condition she doesn't receive the death penalty or life imprisonment without parole if convicted.

Vazquez did not speak during the brief court appearance and had not yet been appointed a lawyer. She will remain in custody until an Oct. 8 hearing. Puerto Rico's government said in a brief statement that it was talking with FBI officials about the custody of Vazquez's baby, who was born in Spain.

A U.S. grand jury charged Vazquez in June 2008 with offering a man $3 million to kill real estate developer Adam Anhang, a Winnipeg native who had moved to Puerto Rico a year before he was killed. The indictment said Anhang had an estimated net worth of $24 million.

He was beaten and stabbed to death in September 2005 in the historic area of Puerto Rico's capital as he and Vazquez walked near a bar he had bought for her. They had met that night to discuss their pending divorce.

Vazquez refused to cooperate with police and filed a civil lawsuit against Anhang's family shortly after his death seeking $1 million in damages and millions more from his estate. A judge dismissed the suit.

Vazquez then vanished from Puerto Rico.

She appeared several years later in Spain, where she was arrested in June 2013 as she stepped off a plane. Vazquez told a Spanish court at the time that she had been living in Italy since 2008 and had twins with another man while working as a tourist guide there. She said she flew to Madrid because she was duped into believing she would be meeting a tourist group. Vazquez, who fought extradition, said she hadn't known U.S. authorities were looking for her.

Oct. 27

The trial of Aurea Vazquez Rijos is scheduled to start next month.

Abe Anhang, father of Adam Anhang, said he would come to Puerto Rico for a trial scheduled for Oct. 27.

Alex Pabon Colon previously pleaded guilty to killing Anhang and co-operated with investigators. Other suspects, including Vazquez's relatives, still face charges.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RELIGION EID AL-ADHA Sadid Ahmed, 5, centre, stands during morning prayers during the commemoration of the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha at the Baitul-Naseer Mosque, Thursday, in Hallandale Beach, Fla. The holiday marks Prophet Abraham's symbolic sacrifice and the close of the Hajj pilgrimage in Mecca. WILFREDO LEE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED KINGDOM

Man can't get himself deported

Tens of thousands of people fleeing warfare and poverty are trying to enter Europe but at least one Iranian man who has made his home in Britain seems desperate to leave.

Manchester Police say Arash Aria turned himself in Monday, claiming to be in Britain illegally, but after arresting him police found out he had legal permission to live in Britain.

An official police tweet said: "Checks with the immigration enforcement team revealed that the man had indefinite leave to stay in the country."

Police said Aria seemed angry and agitated and demanded to be sent home to Iran after 10 years in Manchester.

The Daily Telegraph on Thursday quoted the 25-year-old Aria as saying he was "fed up" with the rude way British people treated him.

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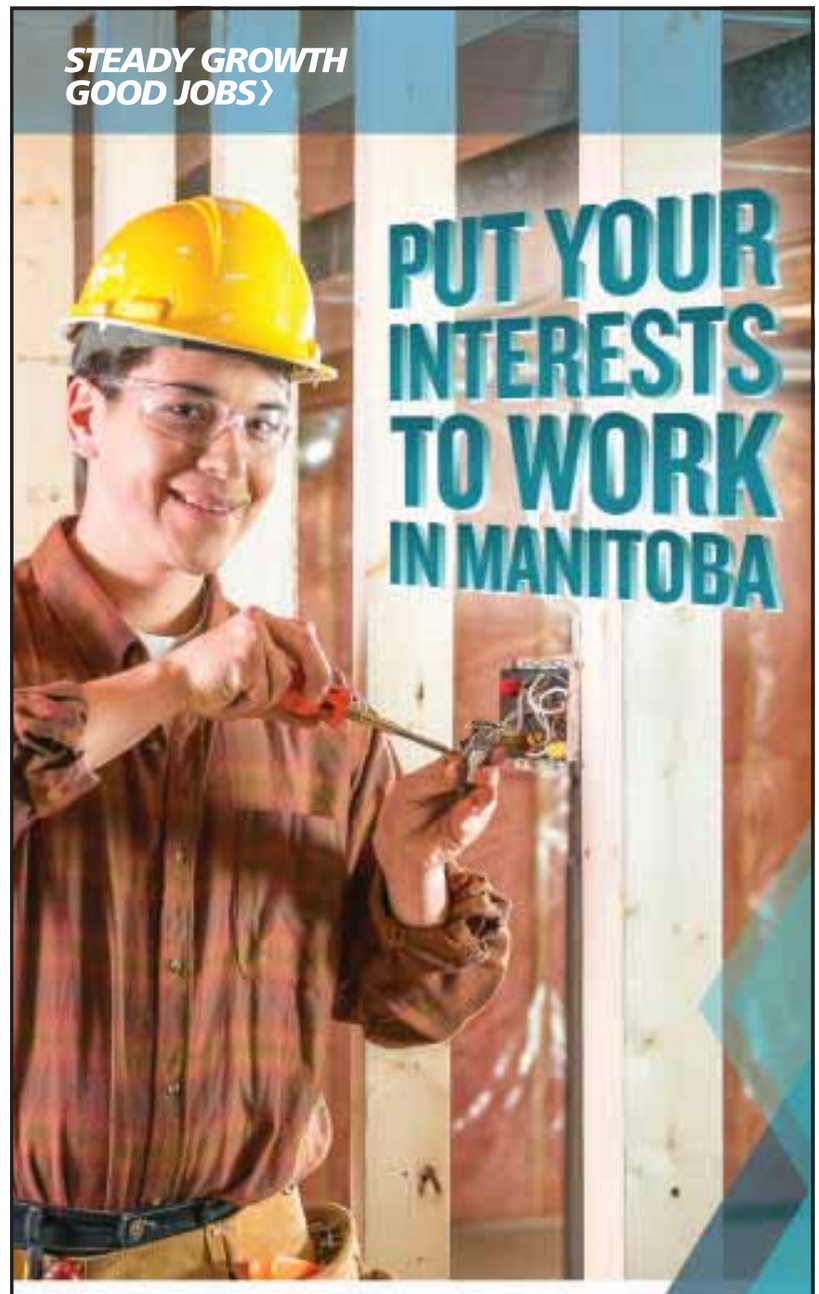

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Manitoba

Sexting leads to legal morass

TECHNOLOGY

Archaic laws leave teen couples facing hefty charges

When authorities discovered that a high school couple had sent each other nude selfies, the two 16-year-olds were plunged into a legal morass with the potential to be branded sex offenders for life.

The North Carolina teens were accused of being both the victims of child pornography and the perpetrators of the crime. And under a quirk in the law, the legal system treated them as adults for purposes of prosecuting them, but also considered them minors by deeming their selfies child pornography.

The case illustrates the quandary authorities face with sexting cases. Most states have yet to update child pornography laws to account for minors who are caught exchanging explicit selfies. The laws, some written decades ago, carry stiff penalties including prison time and a requirement to register as a sex offender.

Prosecuting minors for sexting can have a negative psychological impact, according to some experts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"No one even imagined how easy it would be for anybody to have a little device in their pocket with pictures like this," said Diana Graber, co-founder of Cyberwise, a group that teaches online safety for parents and teachers.

> **It seems to me that the cure is worse than the disease.**
> Psychologist Elizabeth Englander on prosecuting minors for sexting each other

The North Carolina case began in October 2014 when investigators were looking into a suspected statutory rape, said police Sgt. Sean Swain. The 16-year-old boy wasn't considered a suspect or witness, but authorities thought information about the case might be on his phone. Swain said the teen's mother allowed them to search his phone without a warrant.

A sheriff's office investigator found an explicit picture of his girlfriend and determined she was under 18, initiating the sexting investigation, Swain said.

Uproar over the case came after both were charged in February with multiple counts of sexual exploitation of a minor.

Eventually, the charges were reduced to misdemeanour counts of disseminating harmful materials to a minor and in September they were each given a year of probation and agreed not to possess a cellphone. If they complete the agreement, the charges will be dismissed and they can apply to have the case expunged.

Elizabeth Englander, a Bridgewater State University psychology professor, said prosecuting minors for sexting can have a negative psychological impact. "Where you have two kids who are in a relationship, they're not trying to exploit each other ... and they're exchanging these kinds of photos, it seems to me that the cure is worse than the disease," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Snowden launches privacy treaty campaign

Edward Snowden appeared in New York via video to launch a campaign promoting an international treaty to protect privacy. The former National Security Agency systems analyst appeared from Moscow via a video link Thursday at a forum in Manhattan on the so-called Snowden Treaty.

Advocates say the treaty would curtail mass surveillance of phone calls and online activity.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russian drones gathering intelligence on Syria

U.S. officials say Russia has begun flying drone surveillance flights over Syria. Officials say the Russians are gathering intelligence in preparation for what most expect will be the launch of fighter aircraft in the coming days. The officials say that so far there have been no problems or conflicts with the U.S. and coalition fighter aircraft that continue to bomb Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant militants. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bees evolving with climate change

EVOLUTION

Tongues of two species shorten as wildflower variety changes

Collecting nectar. CANDACE GALEN/SCIENCE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Global warming and evolution are reshaping the bodies of some American bumblebees, a new study finds.

The tongues of two Rocky Mountains species of bumblebees are about one-quarter shorter than they were 40 years ago, evolving as climate change has altered the buffet of wildflowers they normally feed from, according to a study published Thursday in the journal Science.

In one species, the tongue had been half the size of the bee's body. But because flowers requiring the length have dwindled, the bees didn't need that much tongue.

Long tongues require bees use more energy, so the bees evolved a shorter tongue that allows them to sample a wider variety of flowers, said study lead author Nicole Miller-Struttmann at the State University of New York, Old Westbury.

While biologists have tracked how global warming has altered the developmental, migration, timing and other behaviour in plants and animals, what makes this study unusual is the physical changes in the bees, said study co-author Candace Galen at the University of Missouri.

"It speaks to the magnitude of the change of the climate that it's affecting the evolution of the organisms," Galen said. "It's a beautiful demonstration of adaptive evolution."

The team of biologists studied the bees on three isolated mountaintops in the Rockies, where they also found that the temperature in the area had warmed by about 3.6 degrees since the 1960s and the type and amount of flowers had changed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOTO BY IAN CARTER

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Parade of Homes

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Fall Parade Showcase

BY MIKE MOORE, PRESIDENT, MANITOBA HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION

WELCOME TO THE 2015 FALL PARADE OF HOMES. The Manitoba Home Builders' Association is proud to present the finest variety of new homes. With 131 new homes by 33 different builders in 35 unique neighbourhoods, ours remains the largest Parade of Homes offered anywhere in Canada. Nowhere else is there more variety for you, the viewing public.

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The design and construction expertise that goes into each new home is unparalleled. Take time when visiting to appreciate outstanding Manitoba craftsmanship. It might seem impossible, but there are unique innovations and ideas to be found in every single show home. Talk to the representatives showing the homes about those features and what makes that particular home special. With such a wide selection available, we're confident that the perfect new home is waiting right now for you to visit. There is definitely something for everyone.

MHBA builder members appreciate the importance of your decision to purchase a new home. That is why they encourage Parade visitors to look carefully at each detail, talk to the sales agents and return for additional visits. After all, show homes are open after the Parade, too. Our builders want to ensure that you are matched with the home that is perfect for your life situation and family for years to come. We believe that this year's selection of new homes offers the right design and the right location for everyone. Be sure to visit as many homes as possible to take full advantage of the Parade. The more homes you visit, the more new and exciting ideas you will get.

In addition to variety and quality, there are numerous additional good reasons why now is the perfect time to purchase a

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new home. Financial institutions are still offering long term mortgages at rates among the lowest in decades. Manitoba and Winnipeg homes continue to increase in value year after year, making them among the most sound of all investments. Manitoba new homes are the most energy efficient in the country and a move to a new home results in significant energy savings.

Manitoba's new home construction industry is strong and vibrant. MHBA member builders and suppliers keep abreast of the latest technology, trends and techniques to ensure that your new home offers affordability, quality and choice.

Enjoy the 2015 Fall Parade of Homes and thank you for visiting.

Mike Moore, President
Manitoba Home Builders' Association

Parade of Homes VIEWING TIPS

FROM THE MANITOBA HOMES BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION

- **Wear comfortable slip-on shoes:** Many neighbourhoods have multiple show homes, which means you'll probably park in one location and walk to all of the homes. Upon entering each home, you must take off your street shoes in order to tour. Given that some neighbourhoods have more than 10 homes open for viewing, a comfortable walking shoe that slips on and off easily is ideal.
- **Map a strategy:** If you have a particular destination in mind, look for additional homes to visit on the way. Many subdivisions are in close proximity to each other and it's easy to see a number of them of one tour.
- **Don't forget the one-offs:** Enjoy the variety in subdivisions with multiple homes, but don't miss the hidden gems in neighbourhoods that have only one Parade listing.
- **Talk to the agents:** Sales agents can fill you in on unique features, energy efficiencies and construction materials that make each home special.
- **Have fun:** You can visit as many show homes as you like, as often as you like. It doesn't matter if you're in the market for a new home or if you're just looking for life-size design inspiration. Take a friend, take your time, and have fun.

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Fort Garry
LaSalle – Prairie View Lakes
Niverville - 5th Avenue Estates
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HEALTH INSURANCE

Research options, insurer advises

The period of time between graduating from school to landing a full-time job with benefits can stretch on for months or years for young Canadians, meaning they lack extended health and dental benefits since they're too old to be covered by their parents' plans.

And with the growing use of contract employees who don't receive benefits, that means young Canadians must fend for themselves and buy their own supplemental health and dental insurance. Provincial health insurance doesn't cover everything. If you don't have insurance, you'll end up paying out of pocket.

Loretta Kulchycki, vice-president of group marketing at Great-West Life, suggests consumers start their hunt for health and dental benefits by deciding how much coverage they're going to need and researching their options online.

Insurance companies offer a choice of plans, from barebones that provide basic prescription drug coverage and dental checkups to comprehensive options with higher limits and a broader range.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

60 days

If you're coming off your parents' group plan or another insurance plan, you have about 60 days when you can roll yourself into an individual plan without going through underwriting, Sue Reibel at Manulife says.

IN BRIEF

Oculus eyes virtual reality mainstream market

Virtual reality is taking a few steps closer to the mainstream with announcements at a developers conference for virtual reality technology company Oculus in Los Angeles. Samsung unveiled a headset that brings the technology to its latest smartphones at half the price, Facebook said it is launching support for 360-degree video, and online video services said they are on board. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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DOW JONES: 16,201.32 (-78.57)

Models dress as characters from the video game Call of Duty. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Call of Duty getting a league of its own

VIDEO GAMES

Competition expanding to year-round championship

Activision is widening the scope of e-sports competition for Call of Duty players.

The publisher of the hugely popular military shooter franchise is expanding its e-sports program next year from an annual tournament to year-round international leagues, as well as increasing the prize pool from $1 million US to $3 million US. The international leagues will be comprised of professional and amateur divisions, culminating in a championship at the end of the year.

"This is going to mark a new era of e-sports for Call of Duty," said Rob Kostich, senior vice-president and general manager for Call of Duty at Activision. "It signals Activision stepping up our commitment to what we've been doing with e-sports. We're expanding our season to make it a fun, competitive year leading into the Call of Duty Championship."

The Santa Monica, Calif.-based publisher is calling the revamped e-sports offering the Call of Duty World League. The competition will launch in early 2016 with leagues in North America, Europe and Australia and New Zealand. The three territories will each feature independent seasons concluding with 32 teams at the Call of Duty Championship in fall 2016.

> **It felt like the right time to do it.**
> Rob Kostich

"It felt like the right time to do it," said Kostich. "We've learned a lot over the past few years and talked a lot to our community. We think we have an agenda that's going to be really attractive to them, and we have a new game coming out, Call of Duty: Black Ops III, that we couldn't be more excited about to lead us into this new era of e-sports."

Kostich said the expanded program was devised to offer a deeper level of engagement with pro gamers while also encouraging casual fans.

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metro VIEWS

Gone fishing, for a while: Indigenous people in Alaska were catching salmon long before anyone thought. Cooked fish bits were found dating 11,500 years back, to the last ice age.

THE BIG THING: HAS CASH GONE COLD?

When was the last time you used cash for something other than a panhandler or a parking meter? Now the Bank of England's chief economist, Andy Haldane, has mused about giving up money all together — at least the kind that's not made of plastic. To get the European economy going, he hopes to find a way to charge negative interest — basically, to penalize people for leaving money in the bank. That's easier to do with a digital balance than with a wad of bills stuffed under a mattress, and though there are some protests from libertarians, there may be other good reasons to get rid of the green as well.

1

Making (criminals) change
When you don't want to be caught buying or selling, cash is your friend. It's what the dark side of the economy runs on. Some researchers argue that the crime rate goes down when people have fewer opportunities to offend — and without cash, drug dealers, phone pawners and tax dodgers may have a harder time of it. On the other hand, the so-called dark web is increasingly the home of such tainted transactions.

2

Price to pay Some worry that the idea of canning cash and allowing people's savings to be slimmed by negative interest has a whiff of tyranny about it. A columnist in the Financial Times wrote, "The anonymity of cash helps to free people from their governments and some criminality is a price worth paying for liberty."

3

Giving credit to debit
Incredibly, when some counties in Missouri started making welfare payments electronically, instead of as cheques that need to be cashed, cash-motivated crimes such as burglary and larceny fell by nearly 10 per cent. That lends credence to the idea that money burns a hole in your pocket and puts bad ideas in your head.

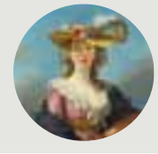
Happy face/sad face

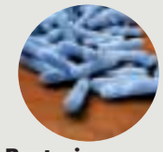
From **sprinting seniors** to **Russian royals,**
Metro weighs in on the news making headlines this week

Romanov remains to be removed
The last royals of Russia, Czar Nicholas II and his wife Alexandra, will be exhumed to settle an old dispute. The monarchs and their five children were killed in 1918. Bones of the parents and three children were interred in 1998. Two more sets of remains put to rest in 2007 were thought to be the other children. Not everyone agrees. Chief shovel-wielder is the Russian Orthodox Church, which canonized the family. So those who want to pray over the relics would be committing sacrilege if these turn out to be someone else's old bones.
SOURCE: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Centenarian runs into old age
Japanese athlete Hidekichi Miyazaki set a record as the world's oldest competitive sprinter this week, one day after turning 105 — but he was sad about it. He fell short of his personal best, running 100 metres in 42.22 seconds, down from a record of 34.10. Miyaki was born on Sept. 22, 1910. He started running only in his 90s. Before that, his sporting activities were limited to board games — but he looked elsewhere for fun when his fellow players began to die off. The secret of his success is a little surprising: He says it's chewing his food properly.
SOURCE: CBC

Famous female French artist finally feted
After 170 years in obscurity, the first internationally celebrated female artist is getting her own exhibition in France. Elisabeth Louise Vigée le Brun fell out of favour after France's revolutionary furor, in part because her most famous work is a monumental portrait of Queen Marie-Antoinette, who had an unfortunate encounter with a guillotine just six years after it was painted. Only 150 of about 1,000 paintings le Brun created during her life will be displayed at Paris's Grand Palais – but it's an honour for an artist who was constantly dismissed by her male contemporaries. SOURCE: BBC





Bacteria wage war worldwide
Antibiotic overuse brings to mind a spoiled child with a sniffle whose parents demand penicillin. But a new report by the U.S. Center for Disease Dynamics suggests that's not right. While rich countries like Sweden are starting to take note of germs adapting to the medicines we use against them, that's not happening in the developing world. In many places antibiotics are available without a prescription. Drug resistance is climbing in Kenya and Vietnam. And in India, 80 per cent of the stomach bug E. coli is resistant to three categories of drugs — a scary sign that an invisible enemy is outsmarting human attempts to curb disease. SOURCE: NPR

metroview

Sex education: Won't someone think of what the children need?

Samantha Emann
Metro | Toronto

The numbers are in, and have been for a while, and it's official: Teens have sex. For their sake, get over it.

I can't check Facebook or navigate the news without seeing another complaint about the new sex-education in Ontario — the most modern document of its type in the country, and one that sets a standard for other provinces to follow.

Yes, we should consider dissenters when crafting policies that affect children. But it's equally important to make sure curriculum is free of the misinformation and blatant bigotry of organizations clearly pushing their own agendas.

Groups like the Canadian Families Alliance and the Campaign Life Coalition say the new curriculum, which opens a discussion on the proper names of genitalia in Grade 1, is improper. I, for one, do not miss the days of pee-pee and wee-wee, and I think such things are beneath us. The words "penis" and "vagina" cannot corrupt children.

These organizations are overlooking the facts. According to Statistics Canada, 25 per cent of teenagers have sex for the first time at age 15 or 16. Nine per cent — one in ten — were 14 or younger. The percentage increases with age, and by 18 or 19, 68 per cent said they have had sex.

But ideologues don't let facts stand in the way of their moral beliefs and so-called "traditional" view of human sexuality — that sex ought to take place between one man and one woman who are married to each other. That's nothing more than a hole in the sand where parents can bury their heads to deny that their teenagers are having sex.

If teens are going to have sex (and they are), they need information that will help them make the right choices and develop healthy, respectful relationships.

And they're not getting that information. The huge confusion about consent makes that abundantly clear. Much hay has been made about Grade 8 lessons in making a "personal plan" for sexual activity.

Maybe that's needed. A 2015 survey found 67 per cent of Canadians couldn't accurately define consent, and four per cent don't think consent is needed in every case (who are you people?).

A recent campaign by the University of British Columbia to teach this highly nuanced concept through the use of emojis further demonstrates why consent should be taught at a young age, before kids are having sex. The concept cannot be boiled down to smiley and not-so-smiley faces.

Teaching young people about healthy sexuality can save lives, and that is more valuable than archaic social beliefs and more important than the feelings of any parent who doesn't want to think about their children having sex.

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PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan

IT IS A STRANGE FACT THAT FREEDOM AND EQUALITY, THE TWO BASIC IDEAS OF DEMOCRACY, ARE TO SOME EXTENT CONTRADICTORY.
THOMAS MANN

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metro WEEKEND
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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION STYLE

Robert De Niro recently walked out of an interview with a journalist, saying "I'm not doing this, darling." But he isn't the first celebrity to behave badly when talking to the press. HANDOUT

The no good, very bad interview

PRESS JUNKETS

If you think De Niro is bad, try talking to Tommy Lee

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

What would you do if Robert De Niro cut short your conversation with a quick, "I'm not doing this, darling," and exited? If you're Radio Times journalist Emma Brockes you write about it and watch your article go viral.

As unpleasant as the encounter may have been — he objected to the "negative inference" of her questions, she called him condescending — it did exactly what it was meant to do, generate buzz for De Niro's upcoming film The Intern.

Who won? I'll give the edge to Brockes who, when faced with a bad situation, turned De Niro's lemons into lemonade and earned just as much press as the touchy actor.

De Niro took some blowback for his behaviour. Daily Mail columnist Piers Morgan wrote, "If I'd been her, I'd have slapped him 'round his smug little chops," adding the Goodfellas star is "renowned as the rudest, most difficult and frankly obnoxious star to interview, possibly in the history of planet Earth."

I think Morgan overstates his case. De Niro isn't the worst — anyone who has ever done a movie junket knows Tommy Lee Jones is the crankiest, most soul destroying interview ever — he's just a reticent interview, who, according to director Nancy Myers, doesn't want "to expose himself all the time."

De Niro isn't alone in the chat-and-dash sweepstakes. Robert Downey Jr. and Quentin Tarantino bolted on Krishnan Guru-Murthy with the Avengers: Age of Ultron actor later calling the Channel 4 news presenter a "syphilitic parasite." Robert Pattinson, Naomi Campbell and Russell Crowe have also done runners on the press.

So why submit to promotional interviews at all? Contractual obligation has much to do with it, but beyond that, they're good for the movie. Daniel Radcliffe, star of Harry Potter, Horns and the upcoming Victor Frankenstein, once told me no matter how famous the actor, anyone who doesn't get out and pump their film up to the press is making a huge mistake.

As a result everyone does them and while it's easy to look at De Niro or Downey as spoiled brats, I'm surprised walkouts don't happen more often.

It must get brutally dull answering the same questions over and over, particularly when they are of the "Of all your leading ladies who was the best kisser?" variety.

How bad can it get in the interview suites?

Once a talking head proudly told me she wrote new lyrics for Beyoncé's hit song Survivor… "My name's Beyoncé/ I'm in Goldmember/ You're watching blah blah on blah blah blah…" and asked the superstar to sing them as a promo for her television station. If I were Beyoncé I would have exited stage left without a song on my lips.

I remember one "reporter" asking George Lucas "whether Dark Vader was a good guy or a bad guy." If I were Lucas I would have hitched a Millennium Falcon ride out of there.

Recently I heard Tom Cruise try and answer the question, "What kind of stunt would you do to impress a girl?" If I were Cruise I would have grabbed the side of the nearest plane and jetted out of there.

As for De Niro, Brockes graciously says she has sympathy for him "because nobody wants to be there for these choreographed junket interviews."

De Niro wasn't quite as kind, but at least he called her "darling" and not "syphilitic parasite."

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

The Intern	★★
Hotel Transylvania	★★
Pawn Sacrifice	★★★

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Anne Hathaway plays the founder of an online clothing startup in The Intern. HANDOUT

The Intern is a 'love letter' to the boomer generation

COMEDY

Hathaway bosses De Niro despite being intimidated

Matt Prigge
Metro | New York

Robert De Niro is scary. That's the line, anyway. In addition to his storied accomplishments, he's quiet and careful with words, loath to open up — qualities that, at least for journalists hoping for a chatty interview, paint him as formidable. Indeed, he recently walked out on an interview (if perhaps not undeservedly) for his new film, The Intern. Even Anne Hathaway, his co-star, was initially at least a little terrified.

"I couldn't talk around him for the first three weeks. I just felt like an idiot with everything I said," Hathaway recalls. But she soon found that his reticence was, as their director, Nancy Meyers (Something's Gotta Give, It's Complicated), had told her, more zen than menace. "Bob's good at having chemistry with people. So I assumed that as long as I didn't mess up I'd be OK."

As it happens, in The Intern their characters have something like the opposite arc. He plays Ben Whittaker, a widower who takes advantage of a new trend towards hiring retirees as unpaid interns. He winds up at an online clothing startup founded and largely run, or at least micromanaged, by Hathaway's Jules Ostin. She's overworked and remote, but Ben finds a way to earn her trust and is soon offering her advice.

"I think it is (Meyers') love letter to us, our generation," De Niro says. "When you're a certain age, you get older, you're less relevant in some ways. That's just not the case."

VALUABLE LESSON
THE INTERN INTRODUCES AUDIENCES TO THE NOVEL IDEA THAT OLDER GENERATIONS MIGHT HAVE WISDOM EVEN IF THEY DON'T HAVE FACEBOOK

Hathaway herself learned a few things, not just from De Niro but also from Meyers.

"When we started we saw the character in two different ways," Hathaway remembers. "I wanted her to be wearing her stress on her sleeve; Nancy wanted her to have it more together. And then I thought, 'Idiot. Who knows a Nancy Meyers character better than Nancy Meyers?' It became this wonderful experience in being guided through a character, which is very new for me."

Once Hathaway surrendered her initial instincts to Meyers' vision, she says she found a place of contentment. "Up until now I have made a lot of movies from insecurity and neuroses and self-doubt. I just got really tired of it and I decided to make this from a more positive place, to feel good about what I was doing," Hathaway explains. "It turns out you can make a movie without having non-stop sleepless nights."

So that's what Hathaway learned about herself. De Niro didn't have quite the same epiphany. He says, "I don't think I learned anything about myself that I didn't know already."

As for their director, Hathaway is typically effusive. "She's the smartest person in any room she's ever been in," she says. "Having been a woman in the industry for the last 30 years, it's not easy being the smartest, funniest person in the room and being a woman. But she's handled it with tremendous grace."

One last note: In addition to a newly zen feel for the craft, Hathaway — briefly, semi-disastrously — found herself with a newfound love for interns. She recalls being on a photoshoot recently, where she was greeted by an intern.

"Because of this movie I went out of my way to pay her a little more attention — ask who she was, why she was doing this, where she wanted to go," Hathaway remembers. Thinking she'd do something nice, she asked her to help out with some music she wanted to play, and had her rig up some iPods to the speaker system.

"I didn't realize the sound system was impossible to work. Every time she would leap from iPod to iPod, it would create the most horrible screech through the entire sound system. Everyone hated it. So, as I was trying to do a nice thing for the intern, I wound up making everyone annoyed by the sound she was making. So I'm not the best."

Now playing

ANIMATION

Hotel Transylvania 2

Director: Genndy Tartakovsky
Starring: Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez

The hit CG-animated family comedy Hotel Transylvania gets a followup with this Sony Pictures Animation production.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: NOT YET REVIEWED Audience: +96%

ACTION & ADVENTURE

Everest

Director: Baltasar Kormakur
Starring: Jake Gyllenhaal, Jason Clarke

2 Guns helmer Baltasar Kormakur directs Jake Gyllenhaal, Josh Brolin, Jason Clarke, and John Hawkes in this adventure docudrama set in 1996, when a number of simultaneous expeditions up Mount Everest resulted in the deaths of eight climbers.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 73% Audience: 76%

COMEDY

The Intern

Director: Nancy Meyers
Starring: Anne Hathaway, Robert DeNiro

A retired successful business owner and widower lands an internship at a fashion website run by a young, career-driven woman.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 58% Audience: +97%

DRAMA

Pawn Sacrifice

Director: Edward Zwick
Starring: Peter Sarsgaard, Tobey Maguire

In a gripping true story set during the height of the Cold War, American chess prodigy Bobby Fischer (Tobey Maguire) finds himself caught between two superpowers when he challenges the Soviet Empire.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 79% Audience: +96%

DRAMA/MYSTERY

Captive

Director: Jerry Jameson
Starring: Kate Mara, David Oyelowo

A story of the spiritual collision of two broken lives. When Brian Nichols — on the run as the subject of a citywide manhunt and desperate to make contact with his newborn son — takes recovering meth addict Ashley Smith hostage in her own apartment, she turns for guidance to Rick Warren's book, The Purpose Driven Life.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: NOT YET REVIEWED Audience: +90%

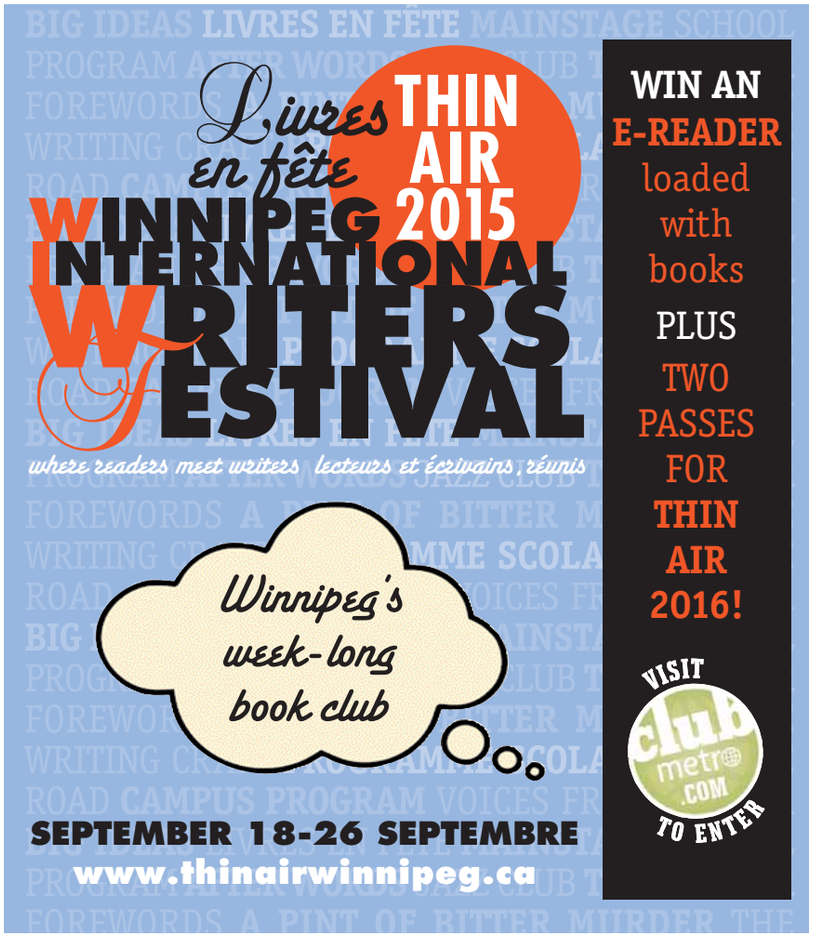
DRAMA

Black Mass

Director: Scott Cooper
Starring: Johnny Depp, Benedict Cumberbatch

In 1970s South Boston, FBI Agent John Connolly persuades Irish mobster James "Whitey" Bulger (Johnny Depp) to collaborate with the FBI and eliminate a common enemy: the Italian mob. The drama tells the story of this unholy alliance, which spiralled out of control.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE
Critics: 83% Audience: +98%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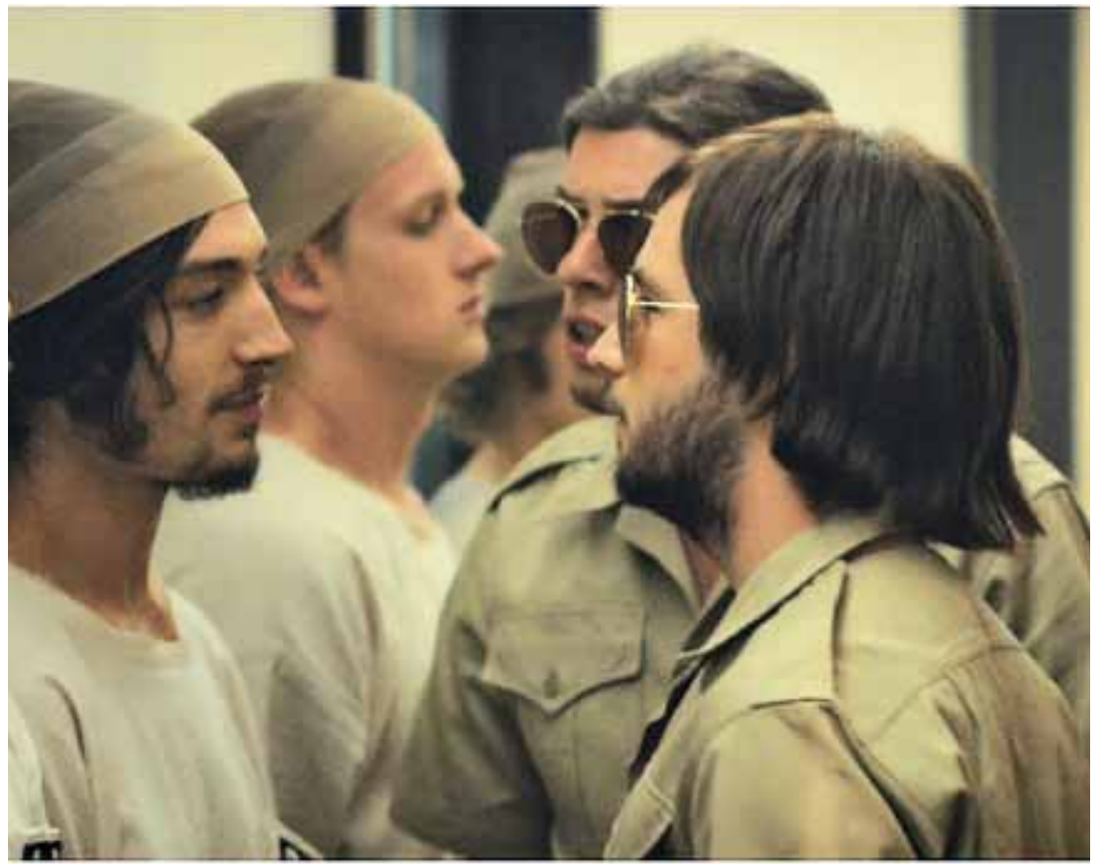

The Stanford Prison Experiment is based on the real-life psychological experiment conducted by Dr. Philip Zimbardo in 1971.
CONTRIBUTED

Billy Crudup's big film experiment

INTERVIEW

Actor took his role as a psychologist too seriously

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

Actor Billy Crudup has a simple theory why his true-life indie drama The Stanford Prison Experiment is striking a chord with movie audiences.

"It is disturbing in the exact right way," states the 47-year-old star who plays Dr. Philip Zimbardo — the infamous university professor who directed one of history's most shocking social experiments.

Filmmaker Kyle Patrick Alvarez's award-winning Sundance hit dramatizes the 1971 experiment in which Zimbardo (played by Crudup) randomly assigned students to either the role of sadistic guard or submissive inmate, then studied as the subjects soon grew horribly abusive in a simulated jailhouse environment.

"Oh, it's interesting," said Crudup about the actual footage he studied in preparation. "At that time, the closed-circuit television wasn't the greatest quality and the cameras were positioned far away (so) you don't get the same kind of feeling watching it as seeing the movie. Kyle does this really impressive job getting close-ups of all the faces twitching or these kids really being disturbed."

For authenticity, Alvarez also enlisted the real Dr. Zimbardo to help shape the script and although the researcher's methods have since been called into question, Crudup insists the man seemed entirely rational whenever he visited the set.

"He is certainly among the most charismatic (men) that I've met," said Crudup.

"He has such a fascination with this subject matter and for this event in particular and he has an appetite to share experience so he was a really wonderful presence to have on set and to learn from."

But Crudup may have enjoyed Zimbardo's visits for another reason. After all, since the veteran star of blockbusters Almost Famous and comic-book adaptation Watchmen was portraying the strict psychologist, he decided to avoid the rest of the young cast and kept from mingling with fellow actors during filming.

"I was meant to be an authority figure and someone who was intimidating and had a capacity to manipulate the situation of their well being. I didn't want them to have any great sense of generosity or warmth towards me," explained Crudup.

"Besides when you're working on a low-budget movie like this, there's not that much opportunity for socializing anyway."

FILMOGRAPHY

Watchmen (2009): Crudup got to flex his muscles as superhero Dr. Manhattan in this global comic-book hit.

Big Fish (2003): Trying to relive the stories of his fictional dying father proved successful in this Tim Burton fantasy, earning $123 million worldwide.

Almost Famous (2000): Perhaps his best known role, Crudup plays '70s guitarist Russell Hammond in this Oscar-nominated rock drama.

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Australian actor Jason Clarke stars as Rob Hall, who leads the expedition in the film Everest. Audiences can catch Everest in IMAX/3D in select theatres. UNIVERSAL PICTURES VIA AP

One of those 'no acting required' gigs

EVEREST

Cast and crew braved altitude sickness, icy temperatures

Ned Ehrbar
Metro | Hollywood

Actor Jason Clarke (Zero Dark Thirty, Dawn of the Planet of the Apes) battles the elements in Everest, recreating the true story of a disastrous trip to the summit of the tallest mountain in the world. While most would assume it was all movie magic, the Australian reveals the reality.

What was shot outside and how much was staged?
We started off, we went to Kathmandu. We flew in there and shot all that stuff that you see there, and then we did basically the hike up to base camp, but we chop it up because of time. You start shooting at 12,000 to 16,000 feet. That was an issue because normally to acclimatize the group will take two and a half weeks to climb up to that point, at which point you're ready to hang out at base camp for a month before you go for the summit. We had to go up and down quite quickly, so people were affected. There was a scene where we were up with the memorials to the dead people, that was shot at 16,000 feet just around the corner from base camp.

That sounds amazing, but terrifying.
Sure, but oh my God, it was special. We then went to the Alps in Italy, and we shot a lot of the southeast ridge and the external stuff on the peaks up there between 10,000 and 13,000 feet. It was (-30 C) in winter, so it was cold and snowy. Pretty much the only stuff we shot on the stage was the actual summit itself and the Hillary Steps stuff....

The costumes and the beard and being so bundled up, you don't really have to worry about makeup and hair things like that. I mean, when we got to that stage they stuck in this weird gel stuff that was horrible, but no. It was one of those "no acting required" gigs.

Were you much of a hiker or climber before this?
Yeah, more so a lot of hiking. I'd done some climbing, and then I did a lot of big climbs to get ready for it back in New Zealand and then in Scotland just to kind of get a sense of what it's like to be out when it's f—ed up and just take it.

You're doing a New Zealand accent in this, and I feel like every time I see you, you're doing some accent different than your own.
I prefer to do an accent. It's one way to find character. For this next role I'm learning the violin and fencing. The work itself helps you find the character. If things weren't difficult to do, I'd probably be lazy. And I actually prefer to work with accents, when there's a voice. I remember Heath (Ledger) in Brokeback Mountain, that voice that he had. That just was his character. It was amazing.

One thing I appreciated about this movie is the restraint with which it handles death scenes. The people are just there one second and not there the next.
That's Baltasar (Kormakur) sticking to his story and knowing his story and saying, "This is the movie that I'm making." And understanding the power of good story. He knew exactly the line and kept us on that line.

> **The ones that are alive or their children are still alive, it all played out so publicly for them ... so that weighed heavily on me.**
> Jason Clark staring in a film based on a true story

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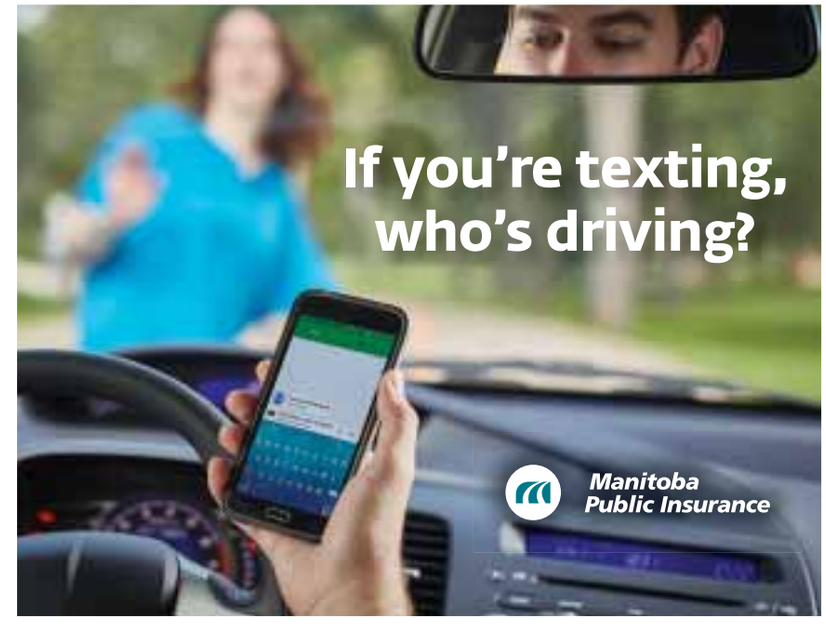

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Egypt to close Tutankhamen's tomb near Luxor for restorations

A mountain immersed in myth

The three summits of the Stawamus Chief Mountain, which attracts thousands of visitors each year for its rock climbing and hiking trails. ISTOCK

SQUAMISH, B.C.

Sacred stories just part of summitting the Chief

The Stawamus Chief on Canada's West Coast is a world-renowned rock-climbing destination known for its beautiful multi-pitch routes and unrivalled crack-climbing pitches.

But many visiting outdoor enthusiasts are unaware that the iconic granite monolith also carries the scars of a legendary battle.

The region's Squamish people tell of the mythical hero Xwech'taal vanquishing the double-headed sea serpent Sinulhkay before uniting the Squamish Nation.

As Sinulhkay fled across the mountain, the creature seared a trail of defeat into the stone, which today is visible as a deep blackened cleft that runs like a scar up and over the mountain's face.

"It's a very powerful, sacred mountain that my people have admired for many years," says Ian Campbell, hereditary chief and elected councillor of the Squamish First Nation.

Campbell talks of the legendary Transformer brothers creating the Chief out of an enormous First Nations home in which all the spirit animals had gathered for a feast.

"We see it in the physical realm as a mountain, but in the spirit realm it's a longhouse," he said, describing it as a symbol of togetherness.

Today, the Stawamus Chief — pronounced stah-WAH'-muss, but known colloquially simply as the Chief — attracts thousands of visitors every year, both for its premier rock-climbing offerings but also thanks to its readily accessible hiking trails that climax in rewarding ridge-top vistas.

The mountain towers 700 metres over the head of a picturesque, inundated fjord, about 50 kilometres northwest of Vancouver. It cuts a striking image from afar, visible at the base of the scenic Sea-to-Sky Highway as a radiant granite sentinel, standing watch over the sleepy community of Squamish. The monolith is the namesake of the First Nation settlement of Stawamus, located immediately at its foot.

Looking down from the first of its three rounded granite summits, the slithering Squamish River can be seen reaching the salty waters of Howe Sound, which ripple between shades of teal and aquamarine under a shifting, cloud-covered sky.

The initial peak is accessible about 1.5 kilometres from and 540 metres above the trail's starting point, while the two remaining summits are located slightly higher and farther along.

The panorama offers a view across the core of the Squamish Nation's territory.

To the north, the snow-streaked slopes of Nch'kay — also known as Mount Garibaldi — angle into the high-ceilinged clouds. Nch'kay played a prominent role in the Squamish Nation's creation story, offering sanctuary to the region's people during the great flood, explains Campbell.

IF YOU GO
Consult the B.C. Parks website for more information: www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks

The site also provides crucial nesting habitat to the peregrine falcon, prompting periodic closures of certain climbing routes throughout the year.

On any given summer day, small coloured specks can be made out dotting the mountain's face, indicating yet another band of climbers who have opted for the more direct, albeit somewhat more challenging, path to the peak.

A middle-aged couple from Michigan braved the moss-covered crag and scrambled up the occasional metal ladder and chain to reach the first peak.

"You just can't do justice to this place," says David McGreaham, marvelling at the view with his wife Kathy. "This is something I'll remember."

Other visitors come from farther afield. Ludovic Minne of France was about to wrap up two weeks of climbing and hiking in the Pacific Northwest.

"The view is just amazing — really, really beautiful," he said, smiling broadly as he describes watching the sunset from the summit the night before.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The Yellow Backie, like "couchsurfing on a bike." 2015 YOUTUBE, LLC

RIDESHARE SCHEME

Hitchhike on a bike in Amsterdam

A team of entrepreneurs in Amsterdam has come up with perhaps the most quintessentially Dutch way to hitchhike: on a bike.

The scheme called Yellow Backie is designed with the tourist in mind, offering visitors an authentic way to the see the city and meet a local.

Hitching a ride on the back of a friend's bike is a common way for locals to get around the city.

Described as being akin to "couchsurfing on a bike," the concept invites Amsterdammers who are open to meeting new people to replace the luggage rack on the back of their bike with a yellow rack, provided for free by the bike tour and rental company.

Tourists will be able to identify participants by the distinctive yellow seat and flag down a ride by yelling, "Backie!"

Unlike a cab or Uber ride, however, the principle behind the idea is for visitors to let their driver serve as an impromptu tour guide.

The program is free and is app-free. AFP

Set up Nexus interview at land border, not airport

ON THE MOVE

Answering your Qs on hotel deals, travel ID cards and more

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada

Time to dip into the Metro mailbag and respond to some readers' questions.

How can you ensure you are getting the best deal for your hotel room?

With the number of online travel agencies, wholesalers and consolidators out there, trying to figure out who offers the best value can be overwhelming. And remember it's important to consider the best value versus the best deal because you really do get what you pay for. Your great deal may end up being the room that hasn't been renovated in 10 years that overlooks a brick wall. Or perhaps your amazingly cheap room might be at a hotel that ends up charging you exorbitant rates for your parking and breakfast. You need to evaluate all of the costs associated with the hotel you are choosing.

For the best value consider booking an accommodation package. Hotels sell their cheapest rooms to companies willing to bury the rate in the cost of a package, which could include breakfast, parking, attractions passes or other value-adds.

Thoughts on a Nexus card?

This bi-national pre-approved customs and immigration pass will help speed you through customs lines on both sides of the border. Apply online and once you are initially approved, you then go for a personal interview. Set up your application interview appointment at a land border, not the airport. The waiting list at the airport can take a long time whereas land borders can often process you within days.

Are repositioning cruises a good deal?

When ships relocate from one part of the world to sail in another it is called a repositioning cruise. The deals can be as much as 70 per cent off the cost of a regular cruise. However, be prepared for more days at sea, potentially costly one-way flights and travel to destinations in the shoulder seasons.

What is the difference between a four- and five-star hotel in the Caribbean?

Unlike North American hotels, where stars indicate a level of quality, the star rating systems of Caribbean resorts serve to differentiate the services and amenities offered. Additionally, different tour operators use varied criteria for awarding the stars. For example, the difference between a four-star and five-star hotel may be that one has a tennis court while the other does not. So if you are a beach bum who has never picked up a racket, why not save some money and stay at the lower-rated property?

Repositioning cruises may seem like a great deal, but beware of hidden costs. ISTOCK

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The NFL has received permission from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration for limited use of drones

What lies ahead for the Jays

MLB

After all but slaying the Yankees, team controls fate

The Toronto Blue Jays are in the American League East driver's seat. They are the favourites to win the division title and are a virtual lock to make their first playoff appearance in 22 years.

Here are five things to watch as the regular season winds down:

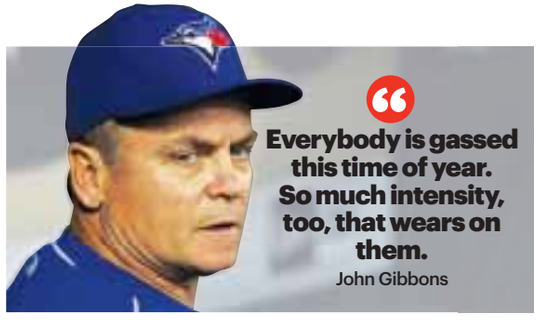
PRICE POSITION

The Blue Jays acquired ace David Price at the trade deadline to handle big games — especially against the New York Yankees — over the playoff push in the second half. With an 8-1 record and 1.95 earned-run average since joining Toronto, he has come as advertised.

His next start is scheduled for Saturday against the visiting Tampa Bay Rays and he'll get another start next week in Baltimore.

If the Blue Jays fall into a wild-card position, Price could be used in the Oct. 6 game on five days rest. But it's much more likely they'll take the East title and start him in the American League Division Series opener on Oct. 8.

Knuckleballer R.A. Dickey will start against the Rays on Friday night and veteran southpaw Mark Buehrle will close out the homestand on Sunday.



> Everybody is gassed this time of year. So much intensity, too, that wears on them.
>
> John Gibbons

EAST FEAST

It has been an American League East-heavy schedule for the first-place Blue Jays of late and they'll continue that trend for the remaining 10 games.

After the home schedule is completed Sunday against the Rays, it's on to Baltimore for four games before wrapping the campaign with three games at Tampa Bay.

The Yankees, who are three games behind the Blue Jays after Thursday night's 3-2 win over the White Sox, are home for a four-game set against the Chicago White Sox and Boston Red Sox before closing their season with a three-game series in Baltimore.

REST EASIER

The 162-game regular season is a long one and any time off around this time of year is precious.

The Yankees have games scheduled every day until their finale Oct. 4. The Blue Jays, who have played one more game than New York, got a break Thursday before kicking off their last home series against Tampa Bay on Friday night.

"That's got to help us, everybody is gassed this time of year," said Blue Jays manager John Gibbons. "So much intensity too, that wears on them."

POWER PLAY

Toronto's offence has cooled a bit of late but the team should still finish first in several offensive categories this season.

The Blue Jays lead the major leagues in runs scored, home runs, slugging percentage and OPS (on-base percentage plus slugging). Toronto also has three players — Josh Donaldson, Jose Bautista and Edwin Encarnacion — who have reached the 35-homer and 100-RBI plateaus.

It's only the second time in franchise history that three players have accomplished the feat in the same year.

The 1998 Blue Jays boasted a power trio that included Jose Canseco (46 homers, 107 RBIs), Carlos Delgado (38-115) and Shawn Green (35-100).

Donaldson leads the way this year with 39 homers and 120 RBIs. Bautista has 36 homers — one more than Encarnacion — and both have 105 RBIs.

ALDS PLANS

The Blue Jays have an idea of the rotation they'd like to use in the best-of-five ALDS, but they don't want to get too far ahead of themselves.

If they win the division, expect Price to work two games with Dickey and Marcus Stroman likely to get starts as well. If that happens, the Blue Jays would then have to decide whether to go with Marco Estrada or Buehrle for the remaining nod.

The ALDS is a best-of-five affair Oct. 8-14. The American League Championship Series is set for Oct. 16-24 and the World Series — also a best-of-seven series — is Oct. 27-Nov. 4.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

ON THURSDAY

Rangers roll into Houston

Cole Hamels pitched six innings to earn his fifth consecutive win, Prince Fielder hit his 22nd homer and the Texas Rangers beat the Oakland Athletics 8-1 on Thursday to complete a three-game sweep.

The Rangers moved a season-high 14 games over .500 and extended their lead to 3-1/2 games over the idle Astros in the AL West.

Texas heads to Houston to begin a three-game series on Friday.

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Healthy QBs a rare sight in the league

CFL

Just three pivots have avoided injury this season

Bo Levi Mitchell hasn't resorted to tucking a four-leaf clover in his shoe or clipping a lucky rabbit's foot to his uniform.

Heading into Friday's game against the Blue Bombers, the Calgary Stampeders quarterback is one of only three pivots who has avoided injury and started every game for his team this season.

Despite his counterparts falling like dominoes across the CFL, Mitchell said Thursday he's not about to change his style.

"I just go out there and play the way I play football," he said, noting he missed three games last year because of injury.

"I'm not going to change anything up. I'm not going to tell myself not to run more or anything like that."

Bo Levi Mitchell is one of the few CFL starting QBs who hasn't missed a start due to injury. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa's Henry Burris has also stayed healthy this season, while backup Trevor Harris has had the reins from the get-go in Toronto with No. 1 Ricky Ray recovering from off-season shoulder surgery. Ray is back practising.

The number of injured quarterbacks has climbed every year since 2011, according to CFL statistician Steve Daniel.

Going into this weekend's action, the nine clubs have started 19 different quarterbacks because of injuries or performance, Daniel said, adding Bomber Matt Nichols is counted twice as he's started for Edmonton and Winnipeg.

That number will climb to 20 after B.C. plays this weekend, with Jonathon Jennings expected to start for the Lions in place of recently injured John Beck. It moves to 21 when Hamilton finishes its bye week and has to use a new starter for Zach Collaros, who's out for the season with a knee injury.

Daniel said in a phone interview he dug up stats going back to 2000 and a high of 22 different quarterbacks were used in 2007.

He also calculated the number of quarterbacks who specifically missed playing time because of injury and it's been rising the past five years.

Five quarterbacks were injured in 2011 (the lowest in the past 15 years), six in 2012, eight in 2013, 11 last year and it's up to 12 this season, including Ray.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Metta World Peace finds peace with L.A. Lakers

The Los Angeles Lakers are giving Metta World Peace another chance.

The veteran forward re-signed with Los Angeles on Thursday, agreeing to a one-year deal to resume his NBA career.

He won a championship ring with the Lakers in 2010 when he was still known as Ron Artest, starting all 23 post-season games in the highlight of his four-year tenure in Los Angeles.

Although his play appeared to decline sharply before Los Angeles released him through the amnesty clause in July 2013, his steadfast friendship with Kobe Bryant and his ability to mentor the Lakers' talented young core apparently played roles in the club's decision to bring back the 35-year-old former troublemaker.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stenson leads Tour Championship with 63

Just getting to East Lake is the challenge for Henrik Stenson. Playing the golf course appears to be the easy part.

Two years after his wire-to-wire victory to capture the FedEx Cup, Stenson was just as dominant Thursday until he stalled at the end and had to settle for a 7-under 63 and a two-shot lead over Paul Casey in the Tour Championship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Namibians hold All Blacks to 58 at Rugby World Cup

Nobody does ruthless like New Zealand. Three of the six highest scores in Rugby World Cup history are the All Blacks'.

Another big score was predicted from a game in which they were the 77-point favourites at the Olympic Stadium on Thursday, but Namibia promised it wouldn't lose by that much and it fulfilled its promise.

The Namibians lost by only 58-14, and were proud losers.

At their fifth Rugby World Cup, they're trying to win their first Cup match. Their 16-match losing streak is the longest in tournament history.

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RECIPE BLT Ranch Burgers

After hosting sunset dinner parties for friends and family, Katie Lee, co-host of The Food Network's The Kitchen, compiled her favourite recipes into the Endless Summer Cookbook released this year.

"I made these burgers for a group of friends one afternoon and they pretty much lost their minds," she says. "The ranch dressing is rich and creamy next to the beefy burger with that crispy bacon, lettuce, and tomato."

Makes 4 burgers.

Ingredients

For the dressing:
- 1 cup (240 ml) mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup (120 ml) plain yogurt
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) buttermilk
- 2 Tbsp minced fresh chives
- 2 Tbsp minced fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder

For the burgers:
- 1 lb (455 g) lean ground beef
- 1 Tbsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 8 pieces cooked bacon, cut in half
- 1 ripe tomato, sliced
- Bibb lettuce leaves
- 4 potato buns, buttered and toasted

Directions

1. Make the dressing: Combine all the dressing ingredients and mix well.

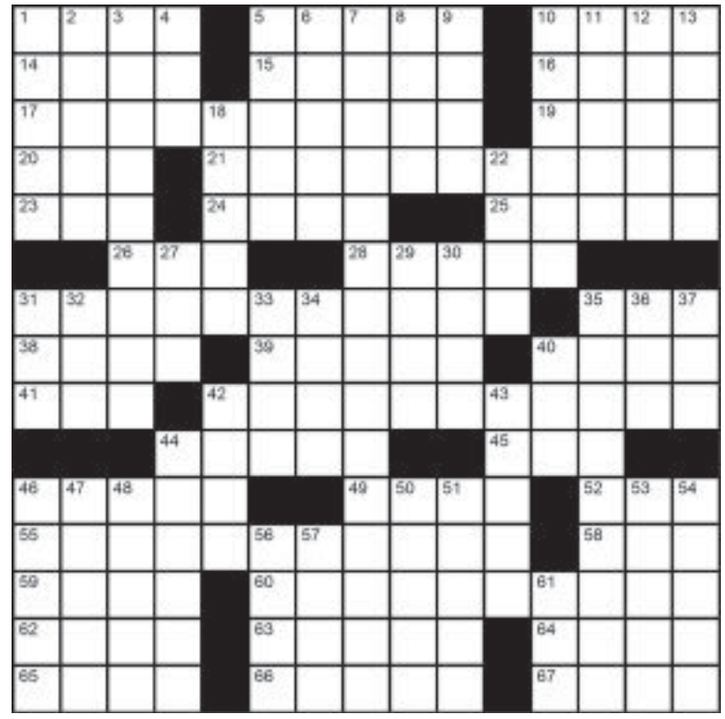
2. Make the burgers: Preheat an outdoor grill to medium-high. In a bowl, combine the beef, Worcestershire sauce, egg, salt, and pepper. Shape into four patties. Grill the patties for about 3 minutes per side for medium doneness.

3. Place each patty on a bun and top with bacon, tomato, lettuce, and a generous dollop of dressing. Serve immediately.

AFP

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS

1. Good Queen _ (Nickname for Elizabeth I, b.1533 - d.1603)
5. Jenny _ (Weight loss program)
10. Ginger cookie
14. Plant-derived gel
15. Moviedom's Mr. McDowall
16. Knitting stitch
17. Looks-like-a-lizard amphibian
19. Stewpot
20. "_ sure be nice if..."
21. Legendary markswoman from Ohio (b.1860 - d.1926) who (apparently) got married in Canada (in Windsor) in 1882: 2 wds.
23. Floral necklace
24. Belonging to Jay Z's wife, fun-style
25. Ms. Aglukkaq (Canada's Environment Minister)
26. Music genre
28. Shrek's kin
31. _ Hawk (Largest hawk of North America that has some rusty plumage)
35. Authorize
38. Heroic verse
39. Reddish-rose dye
40. Automaker of Italy
41. Get the ribbon
42. Canadian businessman Kevin O'Leary's nickname for himself: 2 wds.
44. Rage: 2 wds.
45. Dance tip in ballet
46. Sandbank
49. Breakfast side order
52. Prime meridian std.
55. Skillful triumph or feat: 3 mots
58. Motor City org.
59. Stars sci.
60. Fort _, Florida
62. "From _ _ You" by The Beatles
63. Plains animal
64. Sky bear
65. Ship's front
66. Watchful
67. _. _. (Fargo's locale)

DOWN

1. Mr. Rathbone of classic movies
2. Make merry
3. Persevere: 2 wds.
4. Above Level link
5. Stretch one's neck for a better look
6. _ & The Daytonas (Surfer music band)
7. National Historic Site of Canada... Grassy homestead attraction in Saskatchewan: 3 wds.
8. Obsession, _ fixe
9. Streetside sandwich sort
10. Bicycle wheel parts
11. Void, in Venice
12. "Over the Rainbow" co-composer Harold
13. Beach: Spanish
18. Cape Breton hometown of The Rankin Family
22. Frothy quaffs
27. Married title
29. Leavin'
30. _ um die Welt (Around the world, in German)
31. Not many
32. Prefix with 'dermis'
33. Wheat _
34. Des Moines locale
35. Beach supervisor
36. Quebec tap fluid
37. Final amt.
40. Backwards
42. Blend
43. Archaic anesthetic
44. Pushcart, perhaps loaded with earth or gravel
46. Certain collectible
47. Grass sprayer
48. _ _ lunch (Not on the ball)
50. Great enthusiasm [var. sp.]
51. Fragrance
53. Dip for tortillas
54. Fine-tune
56. "Prometheus" (2012) star Idris
57. Tank
61. Horse coat hue

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You will be impatient of restriction and intolerant of people who don't live up to your expectations. But be careful who you clash with — you could make some powerful enemies.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Be careful how hard you push yourself today because there is a possibility you might strain yourself if you take on too much. Know what your limits are and stay within them.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
The Sun in Libra does wonders for your confidence but other aspects warn you could easily overextend yourself. You have what it takes to win big but first you need to be aware of your shortcomings.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Mars encourages you to say things you may later regret. If you want to avoid unpleasant scenes further down the line you must not lose your temper.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Make sure you think before you speak or act today. Don't assume that because something is amusing to you it will be amusing to everyone else. Practical jokes are a no-no.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Because you are usually such a modest individual it will come as a surprise to some when you reveal your aggressive side today. If you are not getting what you deserve, make a scene. It will be effective.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will clash with someone whose views and opinions you disagree with. Don't back down. It is unlikely you will find common ground, so go all out to win the argument.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
It's not often that you get up in front of other people and lay down the law but you will do so today. It annoys you to think that the answer to a major problem is obvious to you but no one else seems able to see it.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The time is ripe to make a play for power. It is, of course, possible that you will go too far or expect too much but rather that than you make no effort at all.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You will react badly to anyone who tries to tell you what to do, even if they have every right to point out your failings or point out the way. Try not to be quite so aggressive.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
If you make a mistake today it is sure to be a big one. Don't try to cover it up or shift the blame as that will make matters worse. Everyone gets it wrong now and again, even an Aquarius. It's no big deal.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Plan something enjoyable for the weekend, something that takes you out of yourself. Forget about your woes and have a really good time with your friends or your family.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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